

May 8, 2019

Words from the Pastor

Mission statement:

Grace United Methodist Church is a family of faith striving to share God's love with all people.

Dear Church Family,

Remember these words from Paul the apostle: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously (2 Corinthians 9:6 NIV).

The concept of sowing and reaping is pretty simple and we can relate to it. If you want a garden filled with colorful flowers, you start by planting seeds of colorful flowers. If you want a large, fruitful garden, you sow lots of seeds to produce the outcome you want. What seeds have you planted today? Love? Joy? Peace? Kindness? Gentleness? Goodness? Self-control? If you plant those seeds into fertile soil – and what soil is more fertile than that you care for on a daily basis– God will cause them to spring to life.

A gentleman had a beautiful flower garden. One day he saw a boy stealing a flower from his garden. He quietly approached the boy from behind and placed his hand on his shoulder. Then he asked the boy, “Which is the best flower in my garden?” The boy was so embarrassed that he wanted to escape, but he looked around and pointed to what he thought was the best looking flower in the garden. The owner of the garden picked the flower and gave it to the boy. The boy was amazed. On that day he learned a powerful lesson: pardon and forgiveness is available to him. The boy was grateful for the man’s kind action. That day the man became a friend of the boy.

Have you wondered what churches would be like today if we offered more love, pardon and forgiveness to one another? Let us pray: *Heavenly Father, we want to bear more fruit in our lives. We want others to be drawn to us so that we can effectively minister to them. Please help us to plant good seeds. Show us when and where to do the planting so that the harvests will be plentiful. Amen.*

We give thanks to the United Methodist Women and the Hospitality Team for the hard work they put into producing a very successful Social Justice Luncheon on May

4th. We pray that in the future more of our members will be there to celebrate the ministries of our church.

Confirmation class continues on May 7 at 6PM-7:30PM in the Bert Keller Room. Classes will continue through June, Confirmation Sunday is June 16th.

Religious Education classes for Scouts continue on Thursday evening, May 9, 6:30PM-8PM in the Bert Keller Room.

The Scriptures for our worship service on May 12, the 4th Sunday of Easter, Mother's Day and Festival of the Christian Home are: Acts 9:36 - 43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-11 and John 10:22-30. At least two of these scriptures will be the focus of the message.

Journeying in Easter,
Pastor Nation

Mother's Day Sunday, May 12, 2019. Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Cynthia Weinrich is the guest Organist; Walter McKnight is the Liturgist; Martin Charles is the Reader; Ushers are Earl Boyd, Pat McKnight, Carol Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team members include Helen Avedisian, Everett Fitch, Michael Provenzano, Carol Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge.

Prayer List. ♥Marianne Pike, ♥Desmond Nation, ♥Miki Nation (daughter-in-law of Pastor and Desmond Nation), ♥Family of Vicki Pemberton's Grandmother, ♥David Biegler, ♥Monica Campbell (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Joan Bertie, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Cylene Brown (friend of Pearl Hamilton), Iris Molina, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Shirley Shivrattan-Dookhi, ♥Buddy Dookhi, ♥Marilyn Ike, ♥Fay Rose (mother of Nichole Robinson), ♥Everol Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Donna Lowe (daughter of Loretta Lewis Zimmer), ♥Rev. Barbara Melzer, ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), ♥Bill Hammen (brother of Edie Zipperlen), ♥Family of Excelencia Price-Edwards, ♥Carmelita and Charlie Seraphin (grandparents of Brianna and Jessica Knice), ♥Vincent Morrison, ♥Rondolph Ives (brother of Margo Morrison), ♥John Simpson. **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for two weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information.

We are currently seeking a volunteer to become a **Church School teacher** beginning in September 2019. We use Sparkhouse Lectionary curriculum,

which provides weekly lessons and scripture readings that are the same scriptures heard during worship service. If you love children and sharing the Word of God, this is a wonderful way to serve your church. We would love for you to visit a Church School classroom in the near future so you can see for yourself how

There were 14 students present in **Church School** on Sunday, May 5th. There were two students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There was one student in the First and Second grade class. There were two students in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were two students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class and there were seven students in the Youth class. Next week's lesson will be on Peter and Tabatha from Acts 9:36–43. We look forward to working with your students.

Janet Stone, Church School Director

Grace Methodist Nursery School is looking for certified teachers for potential part time employment during the 2019-2020 school year. If interested, please submit resume to the nursery school either by mail or by email to gmns21@aol.com. If you have any questions, please contact Diane at 516/825-2354.

We are having a **DIAPER DRIVE!** Did you know that Social Services benefits such as Welfare do NOT cover the cost of diapers? And that in order to leave a child with a subsidized daycare the parent MUST provide disposable diapers, not cloth? As we celebrate mothers during the month of May, let's remember to donate diapers, wipes and baby food to those less fortunate. Collection boxes are located in the Church and in the Education Building. All donations will benefit organizations like The INN or the Long Island Council of Churches. We will be accepting donations through June 1st. If you have any questions, please see Janet Stone or email mom2springers@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your generous donation!

Hospitality. Bob DiSalvo expressed thanks to all who help with Coffee Hour, especially to Margo and Vincent Morrison for the job they do, to the Evangelism Committee and the UMW for volunteering each month. There is a sign-up sheet in the BKR for anyone who would like to volunteer.

Thrift Shop. The Thrift Shop is still looking for volunteers to help with sorting items, making sure the racks are filled and neat, etc. The Thrift Shop is open from 10AM-3PM on Mondays and Thursdays. Please speak with *Jean Biegler* if you are interested!

May Calendar

Tuesday 5/7 – Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Wednesday, 5/8 – Board of Trustees 7:30PM/BKR

Wednesday, 5/8 – Troop 109 7:30PM/G

Sunday, 5/12 – MOTHER'S DAY

Tuesday, 5/14 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Sunday, 5/19 – MUSIC SUNDAY

Tuesday, 5/21 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Saturday, 5/25 – Far Rockaway Prep 10AM/K

Monday, 5/27 – MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday, 5/28 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

I hope every Mother and every "like a mother" has a wonderful and
Happy Mother's Day!
Eileen